



1 Feb

500.40786CX1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: T. ARAKI et al.  
Serial No.: 10/041,596  
Filed: January 10, 2002  
For: ITEM ALLOCATION METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM FOR  
WORKFLOW SYSTEM  
Group: 3623  
Examiner: C. Tarae

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 19, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2006, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 27, 2006, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.